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ABSTRACT

This study explored the themes in children's fiction with the subject of an alcoholic parent and evaluated the treatment of the subject in novels from the 1960s and the 1980s. It was hypothesized that, compared to writings from the 1960s, writings from the 1980s would more often contain references to the disease concept of alcoholism, would more frequently mention sources of help such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or adult resource people, and would more often present a resolution of the problem. The hypotheses were tested by a content analysis of themes in 10 novels from the 1960s and 10 novels from the 1980s. All novels were listed in "The Bookfinder" under the subject heading "Alcoholism, of Father" or "Alcoholism, of Mother" and were recommended for children between the ages of 10 and 14 years. The findings revealed that the disease concept of alcoholism received almost even coverage in both decades in 11 of 20 titles considered. There were more mentions of AA in the 1980s books and more mentions of Alateen in the 1960s books. There were almost twice as many effectual adults portrayed in the 1980s books than in the 1960s books. This is the most striking difference between the two decades. The findings suggest a movement in the 1980s toward more illustration of help for the alcoholic and the child, and the portrayal of adults as effectual, supportive, or directly involved. The rating instrument is included. (NB)

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NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

A CONTENT ANALYSIS AND COMPARISON OF THEMES IN FICTION WITH THE SUBJECT OF AN ALCOHOLIC PARENT WRITTEN FOR CHILDREN AGES TEN TO FOURTEEN YEARS IN THE SIXTIES AND IN THE EIGHTIES

by
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A Report Prepared Under the Direction of
Professor Patricia Cannon
in Fulfillment of the Requirements
for LIBS 571

DeKalb, Illinois
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Background

The degree to which society in the United States is negatively affected by the problem of alcoholism in evidenced by cover stories of the subject in Time and U.S. News and World Report on November 30, 1987 and in the Newsweek of January 18, 1988. It is estimated that eighteen million Americans suffer from alcoholism or alcohol abuse and it exacts a price of $117 billion per year in medical and health care costs, crime, accidents and lost productivity (Desmond, 1987, 81).

What is more difficult to estimate, however, is the cost in suffering to families with an alcoholic member. Herma Silverstein writes that "alcoholism accounts for more family problems than any other single cause" (1990, 19). Family members typically believe that they are the cause of the drinking and that they can control or cure it. As a result, they blame themselves for the problems that are caused by the drinking and think of themselves as failures. Adults who grew up with an alcoholic parent may be depressed, chemically dependent or may have emotional or psychological problems.

Children in these families experience guilt, shame, low self-esteem, conflict, divorce, inconsistency, violence and a higher incidence of sexual abuse. The effects on such children were chronicled in two of the classics on this subject: It Will Never Happen To Me by Claudia Black,

published in 1981, and Adult Children of Alcoholics by Janet Geringer Woititz, published in 1983. Organizations of Children of Alcoholics (COA) were founded at about the same time that these works were published. Charles Leerhsen and Tessa Namuth note that the number of Al-Anon affiliated groups increased from fourteen, meeting in the early eighties, to 1100 by 1988 (1988, 64). The authors cite the difficulty of reaching the seven million COAs under the age of eighteen "because their parents' denial tends to keep them out of treatment" (68).

The problems faced by these children leave them, in a sense, alone in the world to deal with very complex matters. Some pediatricians link the anxiety experienced by these children to childhood ulcers, chronic nausea, sleeping problems, eating disorders and dermatitis (Leerhsen and Namuth 1988, 68). The importance of reaching children of alcoholics in every possible way cannot be overestimated in terms of their future functioning. Current "Just Say No" and Drug Abuse Resistence Education programs address the choices children will make for themselves with regard to drugs and alcohol but they do not offer the kind of help needed for children being raised by chemically dependent parents.

Alateen is cited by Judith Hughes as a vehicle for raising the self-esteem of children with alcoholic parents (1977, 946). Books are another source of help for children

needing to overcome obstacles to their emotional and psychological well being. Fiction can provide identification of problems, empathy, hope, information, resources, modeling and resolution to children who might otherwise be isolated and likely to become alcoholic themselves.

This paper explores the themes in children's fiction with the subject of an alcoholic parent and evaluates the treatment of the subject in titles from the sixties and from the eighties.

Hypotheses

It is expected that the increased concern about the problem of alcoholism and about the effects of the illness on children of alcoholics evident in the publicity of the late eighties affected the attitudes and direction of children's fiction toward the subject. It is expected that the fiction published in the eighties will more often contain references to the disease concept of alcoholism, will more frequently mention sources of help such as Al-Anon or adult resource people, and will more often present a resolution of the problem than fiction written in the sixties.

Questions

I. How does children's fiction written in the sixties with the subject of an alcoholic parent compare to children's fiction written in the eighties on the same subject?

1. Is alcoholism the primary problem?
2. Is it referred to as an illness by the characters?
3. Are adults protrayed as effectual problem solvers?
4. Is the child troubled by the relationship with the alcoholic parent?
5. If so, does the relationship improve?
6. Does the child experience loneliness, shame or embarrassment?
7. Does the child experience relief from those feelings?
8. Does the child receive help?
9. Does the parent receive help?
10. Which specific sources of help are mentioned?

Definitions

Children of alcoholics: children living with and being raised by a parent who is an active alcoholic.

Adolescent: child between ten and fourteen years of age.

Child: child between ten and fourteen years of age.

Assumption

It is assumed that alcoholism is a devastating illness that victimizes all of the family members.

Review of the Literature

Children's literature has historically reflected society's vision and desire for its children. Society has changed, as has its vision, since the Puritan culture which produced fiction which extolled the values of education, virtue, and good breeding. One of the transitions in society and literature took place during the sixties when authority was suspect and values were no longer accepted without question when handed from one generation to the next. This was a time when previously taboo subjects, one of which was alcohol use, became subject matter in children's fiction. The benefit for readers who were children of alcoholics was that the fiction served as a source of identification of that problem and as a source of relief interms of knowing that others also had this problem.

Masha Kabakow-Rudman suggests that "young people should be able to acquire helpful advice through the medium of literature" (1984, 266). Whether realistic fiction has succeeded in offering such advice is questionable.

In general the literature of the sixties has been characterized as shallow. Kenneth Donelson refers to the disturbing trend of inferior writers who "seemed delighted to stake out previously taboo social problems and write fictionalized tracts introducing the same old characters (albeit with different names) over and over and little more"

(1980, 64). Donelson uses the terms "with-it" and "bandwagon novels" to describe this type of fiction (64).

Sheila Egoff suggests that American authors of realistic fiction in the sixties focused so narrowly on problems that they created the "problem novel" (1981, 62). She elaborates on the weakness of the literature mentioned by Donelson:

> After a book-length recital of grievances and "problems" in these books, their resolution becomes a matter of some interest. A consideration of the endings alone strengthens the impression that it is the problems themselves, or rather the cool, anecdotal explication of them, that are the raison d'etre of problem novels, for psychologically convincing resolutions seem to be neither required nor demanded by the conventions of the genre (72).

Meaningful resolution can be significant for adolescents, who, according to Nicholas Tucker, "become more conscious of the confusions and inconsistensies of human existence" (1981, 181). For children of alcoholics, the importance of resolution could be vital in terms of surviving the effects of alcoholic parents and in terms of becoming functional adults.

Masha Kabakow-Rudman describes the coverage of substance abuse in children's literature:

> . . . the topic is often handled in a very heavy handed, nonliterary fashion, or mentioned as a factor in a character's behavior but not fully explored. Sensationalism is difficult to avoid in a disability whose effects are more devastating on the people near the substance abuser (in terms of emotional and sometimes, physical damage)than to the "victim" (265).

In reviewing the literature she mentions that most books on alcohol abuse cite the helping role of Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, and Alateen but her review includes fiction as well as nonfiction. She also cautions against the formula novel. Five novels that treat an alcoholic parent as a subject are recommended on her list for special needs. Four of these were published in the seventies and one was published in 1980.

The need to compare the content of children's fiction is warranted to determine if the criticism of this genre from the sixties generalizes to the whole subject area. Whether the content improved in this subject area in the eighties has not yet been fully covered. Results of this study would be useful to teachers and librarians who are in a position of recommending good books to children.

Methodology

Increased concern about the problem of alcoholism and about the effects of the illness on children of alcoholics evident in the publicity of the late eighties could have affected the attitudes and direction toward the subject in children's fiction.

The hypotheses were tested by a content analysis of themes in ten novels from the sixties and in ten novels from the eighties listed in the Appendix. These novels were listed in The Bookfinder under the subject heading "Alcoholism, of Father" or "Alcoholism, of Mother" and were recommended for children between the ages of ten and fourteen years. The sixties' novels consisted of the six novels that were listed in Volume 3 with publication dates from the sixties, the two novels with 1970 publication dates that were assumed to have been written in the sixties and one novel published in 1959 which was in its fourth printing in 1966. The tenth novel was selected from the only title listed under "Alcoholism, of Parents," published in 1967, because only nine titles from that decade were otherwise listed. The eighties' novels were selected from Volumes 3 and 4 based on the appropriateness for ages ten to fourteen, on the decision to select ten different authors within each decade and on the most immediate availability of each title. It was decided not to include one novel that was a translation of a Russian novel.

A basic unit of measurement in content analysis is the coding unit, and themes or assertions are among the most common coding units listed (Budd, Thorp and Donohew 1967, 33). The authors quote Bernard Berelson's definition of theme as "an assertion about a subject matter" (47). Assertions about subject matter reflect positive or negative attitudes, relief or discomfort, or expressions of optimism or pessimism. This aspect of the content is termed direction. According to Budd, et al. "content analysis is most productive when it is able to show direction - or lack of it" (50). Because of the importance of and the need for reliable and helpful information for children of alcoholics who may be readers of such novels, the content was evaluated for the direction, favorable or unfavorable, of themes asserting that alcoholism is a disease, that adults are effectual or adept problem solvers, that situations can improve, and that help is necessary.

The themes and assertions that occur in the content of each novel were assigned a positive or negative value using the rating instrument included in the Appendix. The ratings were calculated and a score was given each book. A graph is included to illustrate the score of each book and the range of scores in each decade. The scores from the novels of the sixties were averaged and compared to the average mean score of the eighties' novels.

Results

Summaries of the Books Considered from the Sixties

Red Sky at Morning

Most of this story involves Josh's adjustment to school and friends after his family moves to the southwest and his father enlists in World War II. His mother is the alcoholic and that relationship plays a smaller part in his life. After one scene during which she slaps Josh's face until his nose bleeds, he obtains his father's permission to make some of the decisions at home, such as hiring back the housekeeper whom his mother fired. In that sense he achieves some independence and relief.

This story has a light-hearted tone and most of the adults are portrayed, from the adolescent point of view, as having almost silly qualities.

Car-Crazy Girl

Dina's problem is that she is unable to connect with her parents. Even a speeding ticket doesn't get their attention and her alcoholic mother's response is that it is inconvenient to appear in court. After drinking at her graduation party, Dina drives her friend home and has an accident that kills him. In spite of being urged by her parents and her attorney to lie at her trial, Dina decides to tell the truth, thereby setting herself on an independent and responsible path unlike that modeled by her parents.

Escape from Nowhere

Carla is afraid that if she invites friends to her home they will discover the truth about her mother. After a particularly frightening moment with her drunken mother, Carla runs away and is "rescued" by a potential friend who also deals drugs. Consequently Carla begins using marihuana until a crisis point. Her mother's alcoholism becomes secondary to this and other problems.

Blowfish Live in the Sea

Carrie tells this story about her brother, Ben, whose father is the alcoholic. Ben has quit school and is quite aimless which causes his mother and stepfather to be concerned. He accepts an invitation to meet his father in a run down motel. The reunion seems to relieve some of the longing Ben has experienced. Ben decides to help his father get a motel business started and says he doesn't let his father drink.

The Pit

Butch is thought of as a no-good by his father and at least one of his teachers. His alcoholic father beats him two and three times a week until the time when the little sister gets punched. Butch then delivers a "beating" to his father which puts an end to the physical abuse.

The three adult men who treat Butch respectfully and his own determination provide sources of strength and hope. In the end he becomes a local hero.

Us Maltbys

The alcoholics is this story are the fathers of two foster children and a boyfriend. The men have been in clinic treatment but have relapsed and the children have attended Alateen. The Maltby children campaign to get a barn donated that will provide a place for support meetings for alcoholics.

Take My Waking Slow

Ritchie and his family move into the projects in New York. He is physically and verbally abused by his alcoholic father who has not been steadily employed since his hand was severed in a job related accident. Eventually, Ritchie retaliates physically. His father hocks his own fishing pole and buys roses for his wife and a harmonica for Ritchie. It is a warm moment but is followed by another disappearance and failed promise.

Ritchie resolves to see his father as he is, to stop hoping for better times and to "go someplace."

Jennifer

Jenny adjusts to a new town, school and friends. While the drinking problem and treatment have occurred before this story opens, Jenny still experiences the sting of some memories and the fear of a recurrence. Her mother attends AA meetings and has a recovering alcoholic friend. By the end of the story, Jenny's confidence in her mother is restored.

The Long Ride Home

Todd and his sister are alone against the world in a new town. Their once successful father has started a new job. Todd is determined to keep his father's problem, alcoholism, a secret but eventually two potential friends approach him about Alateen. He reluctantly goes to a meeting but walks out. When his father becomes ill with alcoholic pneumonia Todd needs help and calls his Alateen friend. Two recovering alcoholics come and the father agrees to hospitalization. The story ends on this hopeful note.

One Day at a Time

The story opens when Bitsy's mother returns from three weeks at the sanitarium and promptly resumes drinking. There are many episodes with the ambulance and one episode where the mother puts her spiked orange juice in the baby's bottle and the baby drinks it. The mother finally agrees to use Antabuse, drinks, admits her problem and resolves to stop. Bitsy accepts many difficulties in stride, it seems, overeats and eventually attends Alateen against her father's wishes.

Summaries of the Books Considered from the Eighties

In Our House Scott is My Brother

This story, told from Jodi's point of view, is about the adjustments that take place when her father remarries and Jodi acquires a stepbrother her age. The complications from this arrangement are Jodi's problem, while the stepbrother tries to care for his alcoholic mother and protect her image. This causes him to behave unpredictably. After less than a year, the stepmother leaves with her son and moves back to the west coast.

Blimp

Kim's friend, Gary, has the alcoholic parent who, when drunk, blames Gary for the accidental death of his brother. He attempts suicide twice. Finally, he sees a counsellor, his family cooperates in his treatment and his mother goes to AA and therapy.

Kim, in the meantime, loses weight and the nickname. She and Gary declare their love for each other by the end of the story.

Kim's family is a model of honesty and support, and many heavy-hearted issues are handled in an easy-going manner.

The Moonlight Man

Catherine's parents are divorced and she spends a summer month with her father, but he is three weeks late picking her up from boarding school. Catherine erupts

angrily after two wild drinking episodes, but often she finds her father fascinating and interesting. Her ability to deal with her ambivalence toward him is seen as the point on which this relationship improves.

Exercises of the Heart

This story primarily revolves around Roxie, her mother, who is a stroke victim, and Roxie's friendship with Glo. Glo's mother is the alcoholic and Glo is not surprised by her behavior, as if that is what she has come to expect, although she engages is some rebellious behavior that has serious consequences. Her mother is sent to a sanitarium to "dry out."

Eventually, Glo's mother becomes involved and Glo takes the first steps to resolve the trouble she has created. This seems to promise a resolution for her mother's problem as well.

Cowboys Don't Cry

Shane has been drifting with his championship bull-riding father from one rodeo to the next since his mother's death four years earlier. They try to settle on an inherited ranch and Shane, for the first time, attends school regularly, but he keeps his hope for a normal life in check after experiencing many disappointments with his alcoholic father. After a scene and an accident his father goes away for a time, writes letters, sends money and stops drinking. A friend's empathy and her family support Shane.

Shane and his father are reunited by chance after a dangerous incident. Previous hurts and misunderstandings are resolved when they declare their love for each other.

Jemmy

Jemmy is the Chippewa-Irish daughter of a deceased mother and an alcoholic father who neglects her and the other two children. He demands that she quit school in her senior year to care for the younger children. Fortunately she meets two people who support her. One is a reformed alcoholic who levels with Jemmy's father about his drinking. Jemmy suggests AA to her father and refers to alcoholism but we don't find out how she has this information.

Jemmy's father decides to work again and to stop drinking but needs one drink every evening to ease the effects of withdrawal. This is seen as promising.

Jemmy's inner composure and the overseeing encouragement of three adults are the sources of help.

Jenny Kiss'd Me

Jill is the overweight daughter of an alcoholic doctor and a deceased mother. She keeps house, prepares meals and has been berated by her father because of her weight. She is supported by a retired teacher friend and by the principal when he reveals what he has learned at Al-Anon. His wife helps Jill at a crisis point and tells her about Alateen. Jill doesn't attend a meeting but is in the process of resolving her self-doubt and relationships with boys.

Smoke From the Chimney

Erin enjoys imaginary jungle adventures during the summer with a friend. They raise money together to pay Erin's way to summer camp but it is stolen by her alcoholic father. She doesn't go to camp. By the end of the story, her mother takes the children on a camping trip in the new (18 year old) car and in a rummage sale tent.

The troublesome incidents created by the drinking are balanced by Erin's ability to enjoy happier moments when her father is sober and to recall happier times in the past.

Crazy Vanilla

Tyler is a loner who likes photography and is troubled by the perceived loss of the relationship with his older brother, who moves in with a gay lover. He becomes friends with a girl who also has family problems. Tyler asserts himself when he stands up to his tyrannical father. By the end of the story he is taking his mother to open AA meetings.

Where the Elf King Sings

Marcie is the big sister who looks after her brother, and prepares his dinner while their mother works as a waitress. Their father is an alcoholic Vietnam veteran. After he literally tears the house apart his wife packs his bags and he leaves. Eventually he signs himself into the hospital and is treated for alcoholism and then for post traumatic stress disorder. The book ends on a promising

note when he is released from the hospital and the family rides home together.

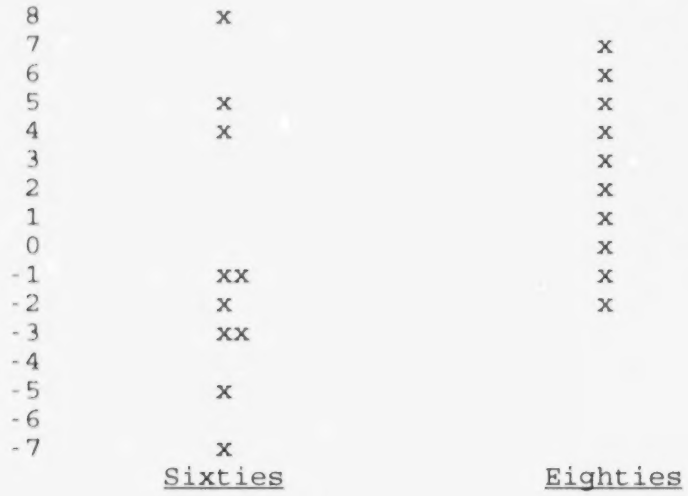
Table 1

Ratings by Title

Sixties Titles	Ratings	
Red Sky at Morning	-2	
Car-Crazy Girl	-3	
Escape from Nowhere	-5	
Blowfish Live in the Sea	-3	
Us Maltbys	-1	Mean Score: -5
The Pit	-1	
Take My Waking Slow	-7	
Jennifer	8	
The Long Ride Home	5	
One Day at a Time	4	
Eighties Titles	**Ratings**	
In Our House Scott is My Brother	2	
Blimp	7	
The Moonlight Man	-2	
Exercises of the Heart	-1	
Cowboys Don't Cry	0	Mean Score: 2.5
Jemmy	5	
Jenny Kiss'd Me	6	
Smoke From the Chimney	3	
Crazy Vanilla	1	
Where the Elf King Sings	4	

Note: When the number of effectual adults is not included in the calculation the mean score for the sixties is -1.8 and the eighties' mean score is 0.1 indicating an insignificant difference in direction of themes between the two decades.

Figure 1. Comparison of 60's and 80's scores



A look at the graph of the individual scores of the books (see Figure 1) reveals a more even distribution of scores among the books from the eighties and reveals three exceptional books among those considered from the sixties which raised the mean score. Table 1 shows scores by title. It can also be noted that most of the eighties' scores occur above 0 and most of the sixties' scores fall below 0. Part of the difference is attributable to the high number of effectual adults in the eighties. The low score that results for the eighties when effectual adults are not included is affected by the fact that in five of the eighties' books the alcoholic was still in treatment and the outcome was not known. There is a slightly greater number of mentions of help in the eighties and the child is shown as receiving help twice as often in the eighties.

The actual number of books available on the subject of "Alcoholism, of Father" and "Alcoholism, of Mother" for the age group in question as listed in The Bookfinder increased from six titles published in the sixties to nineteen titles published in the eighties.

Disease concept:

Sixties: Alcoholism was referred to as a disease or illness in five titles.

Eighties: Alcoholism was referred to as a disease or illness in six titles.

Sources of help:

Sixties: A total of thirteen sources of help in four books are mentioned including AA, Alateen, a teacher, a parent, a friend and other adults.

Eighties: Sources of help receive fifteen mentions in six titles and include AA, Al-Anon, Alateen, a therapist, friends and other adults.

Alcoholic seeks help:

Sixties: Three titles have the alcoholic seeking help.

Eighties: There are two titles in which the alcoholic seeks help. In both the sixties and in the eighties the help is in the form of attending AA meetings, and signing oneself into the hospital for treatment. The third sixties' title has the alcoholic agreeing to take Antabuse as a treatment. In two other titles from the eighties the alcoholic stops drinking or makes a decision to stop drinking without help.

Child receives help:

Sixties: In two titles the child attends Alateen.

Eighties: In four titles help is available in the form of an adult confidante, a psychologist, supportive adults and an empathetic friend.

Child troubled by relationship with alcoholic parent: This was apparent in seventeen of the twenty titles and was not assumed unless discussed. In three titles this was secondary to the rest of the child's story or the relationship in question was not that of the main character.

Relationship improves:

Sixties: The relationship between the parent and the child improves in the form of a reunion after a long separation in one title, and by a situation which restores the child's confidence in the parent in a second title. In one book the alcoholic is in treatment and we do not know if this will result in an improvement.

Eighties: Five of the books end with the alcoholic in treatment and we do not know the effect on the relationship. In one case the improvement is indicated by the interest the parent takes in the child. In two books improvement is accomplished by the child's ability to think differently about the parent and to see an acceptable side.

Child's negative experience:

Sixties: There are nine titles that uncover shame, loneliness, fear, hopelessness, and abuse.

Eighties: Ten titles include the negative effects of alcoholism on the child.

Child's favorable experience:

Sixties: Six titles portray some kind of relief of the negative effects of alcoholism.

Eighties: Seven titles demonstrate some kind of relief for the child.

Primary problem:

Sixties: In five titles alcoholism is a primary problem for the main character.

Eighties: In seven titles alcoholism is a primary problem for the main character.

Resolution occurs:

Sixties: Resolution of the drinking occurs as a result of action on the part of the alcoholic in three titles. In five of the books the resolution occurs due to a decision on the part of the child to achieve some control of the situation, to not be beaten again or to think differently about the alcoholic parent.

Eighties: Resolution that occurs as a result of action on the part of the alcoholic is seen in four books whereas resolution that occurs due to a decision on the part of the child occurs in two titles.

Effectual adults:

Sixties: A total of thirteen effectual adults are described.

Eighties: Twenty-four effectual adults are portrayed.

Conclusions

The disease concept of alcoholism receives almost even coverage in both decades in eleven of the twenty titles considered. There are more mentions of AA in the eighties (five books) and more mentions of Alateen in the sixties (three books) and both decades include adult sources of support in about half the titles (four from the sixties and six from the eighties).

The alcoholic receives help (also rated as resolution), whether by his own action or by being sent to the hospital, more often in the eighties (seven books) than in the sixties (three books). The child receives help in the sixties in the form of Alateen in two books whereas the child receives help in twice as many books (four) in the eighties but it is in the form of supportive adults, a counsellor and friends.

Improvements in the relationship between child and alcoholic parent are seen in two titles from the sixties and in three titles from the eighties but there is potential for an improved relationship in five other titles from the eighties which end while the alcoholic is still in treatment as opposed to one of the sixties' titles that ends this way. Resolution that occurs as a result of a decision or changed thinking on the part of the child is seen more often in the sixties (in five titles) than in the eighties (two books).

The child experiences negative effects of alcoholism and relief of those effects about evenly in both decades.

The books considered from the eighties represent a slight increase in the alcoholic receiving treatment.

There are almost twice as many effectual adults portrayed in the eighties (in nine books) as in the sixties (in six books). This is the most striking difference between the two decades. While children will benefit from effectual adult models and support there is the question of benefit to readers. Do adolescents have relationships with adults in which they are supported or does this occur only in fiction? This could be the subject of further research.

Although AA was mentioned in five of the books from the eighties, and the alcoholic received treatment in seven books, Alateen received only one mention in one book. This suggests a belief that the alcoholic is the one in need of help whereas the literature highlights the need to help children of alcoholics. A survey and comparison of adult COAs who attended Alateen and those who did not could explore this need in greater detail and determine the actual benefit of the program in terms of adult functionality.

This study indicates a movement in direction in children's fiction of the eighties that more often illustrates help for the alcoholic and the child, and that portrays adults as effectual, supportive or directly involved .

No change was seen in the eighties in coverage of the disease concept, in the number of adults available for

direct help, in the instances of improved parent-child relationships or in coverage of the negative effects on the child. Less coverage of Alateen was seen in the eighties.

Appendix

Titles

Adler, C.S. In Our House Scott Is My Brother. New York: Macmillan, 1980.

Bradford, Richard. Red Sky at Morning. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1968.

Cavallaro, Ann. Blimp. New York: E. P. Dutton, 1983.

Colman, Hila. Car-Crazy Girl. New York: Wm. Morrow and Co., 1967.

Eyerly, Jeanette. Escape from Nowhere. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1969.

Fox, Paula. Blowfish Live in the Sea. New York: Bradbury Press, 1970.

Fox, Paula. The Moonlight Man. New York: Bradbury Press: New York, 1986.

Greenberg, Jan. Exercises of the Heart. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1986.

Halvorson, Marilyn. Cowboys Don't Cry. New York: Delacorte Press, 1984.

Hassler, Jon. Jemmy. New York: Atheneum, 1980.

Holland, Isabelle. Jenny Kiss'd Me. New York: Ballantine Books, 1985.

Maddock, Reginald. The Pit. Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1966.

Means, Florence Crannel. Us Maltbys. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1966.

Norris, Gunilla B. Take My Waking Slow. New York: Atheneum, 1970.

Sherburne, Zoa. Jennifer. New York: Morrow, 1966.

Summers, James L. The Long Ride Home. Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1966.

Tapp, Kathleen Kennedy. Smoke from the Chimney. New York: Atheneum, 1986.

Wersba, Barbara. Crazy Vanilla. New York: Harper and Row, 1986.

Wolkoff, Judie. Where the Elf King Sings. Scarsdale, New York: Bradbury Press, 1980.

Woody, Regina. One Day at a Time. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1968.

Rating Instrument

Title_____ Year_____
Author_____ Publisher_____

Themes and assertions

Value (+) (-)

Referred to as a disease_____

Sources of help: AA_____
Al-Anon_____
Alateen_____
teacher_____
counsellor_____
parent_____
friend_____
other_____

Alcoholic seeks help_____
receives help_____

Child receives help_____

Child troubled by relationship with
alcoholic parent_____

Relationship improves_____

Child experiences shame_____
abuse_____
loneliness_____
other_____

Child experiences relief from shame_____
abuse_____
loneliness_____
other_____

Alcoholism is the primary problem_____

Resolution by adult action_____
by child action_____

Number of effectual adults_____

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